PATENT
Docket No. 509952000100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Edward Y. CHANG, et al.

Application No.: 10/032,319   Group Art Unit: 2171

Filed: December 21, 2001   Examiner: E. P. LeRoux

For: MAXIMIZING EXPECTED
      GENERALIZATION FOR LEARNING
      COMPLEX QUERY CONCEPTS

Declaration of Edward Y. Chang Pursuant to 37 C.F.R § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I, Edward Y. Chang, Ph.D., declare as follows:

1.   I am an inventor named in the above-referenced patent application.

2.   I am the Chief Technology Officer of VIMA Technologies Inc., assignee of the above-referenced patent application.

3.   I am an Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

4.   I have reviewed the "MEGA: The Maximizing Expected Generalization Algorithm" article cited by the Examiner, and on which I am the senior author.

5.   Beitao Li is listed as a co-author on the "MEGA: The Maximizing Expected Generalization Algorithm" article.

6.   Beitao Li was a student who had just recently joined my laboratory when a first draft of the article was written in September 2000. Beitao Li worked as a student technician

sf-1555310

under my supervision and at my direction to conduct empirical studies to validate the MEGA algorithm described in the article.

7.   Beitao Li did not make any independent contribution to the work described in the article.

8.   I chose the procedures and criteria to be followed for conducting the empirical studies. I instructed Beitao Li to follow these procedures, and he reported the results of the studies to me.

9.   The nature of the work performed by Beitao Li is summarized as follows. Beitao Li performed the following empirical studies under my direction and supervision.

- Comparing different sampling methods with MEGA.
- Testing the vote-procedure of MEGA and verifying that it worked as I expected.
- Producing all figures and graphs based on the data collected from the experimental results.

10. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to by true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Nov. 21th, 2003
Date

Edward Chang
Edward Y. Chang, Ph.D.

2